

## PRESS RELEASE

**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019

**Subject: Positive Pathways won first place for Large Team of the Year 2019**

The Positive Pathways Project are proud to have received first place in the Large Team of the Year category in the Havant Volunteer Awards 2019 (organised by Community First and Havant Borough Council) on Tuesday 4th June.

Six volunteers from the Positive Pathways Team and three members of staff came along to celebrate being nominated and didn't expect to win but we did! We are always so grateful to our volunteers and the time they donate to support people in their community in places such as sheltered housing, schools and public gardens. Well done to all of the nominees and the winners of the night; they are all incredible at what they do and so generous in donating their time to support their community.

The Positive Pathways Project attends activities around the Havant Borough to help conserve our green areas, to provide support by befriending in sheltered housing and care homes and we have painted the walls of community centres, to name a few! Within the team, the volunteers are individually supported and signposted onto individual opportunities when they feel it is ready to take that next step.

We aim to fully support, encourage and motivate our volunteers. We are fortunate to be able to offer them bespoke training courses, drop-in mornings at the Leigh Park Community Centre - where we are based - and have organised events aiming to spread awareness about mental health conditions and suicide prevention days. We are so proud of our volunteers and this award goes to them for their hard work and the progress that they all have made throughout their time with us.

For more information about what we do, why not have a look on our social media pages?

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CFPositivePathways/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/cfpositivepathways/>

Twitter: @cfirsttweets

If you would like to contact us individually, you can either call us on 02393 873 808 or email us at [positivepathways@cfirst.org.uk](mailto:positivepathways@cfirst.org.uk). Thank you.

- End -

**Photos:**



**Notes for Editors**

1. Communities First Wessex (known as Community First) provides support and advice to local voluntary and community groups, charities and social enterprises in order to build their

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capacity and ensure a thriving and successful voluntary sector across East Hampshire, Fareham, Havant and Winchester. We also provide a one stop shop for all aspects of volunteering; helping recruit and place volunteers throughout our local communities and providing specialist training for voluntary organisations.

2. Communities First Wessex also delivers critical community services including:
  - a. Community Transport and Dial a Ride in East Hampshire, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, Winchester and Basingstoke
  - b. Shopmobility in Fareham, Havant and Chichester, and Winchester
  - c. Health and wellbeing services including surgery signposting with GP surgeries in Bordon, Fareham and Waterlooville, Walking 4 Health in Fareham, and a Home Help and a Gardening Service for vulnerable people in Fareham.
  - d. Support for Community Buildings and managing agents for Leigh Park Community Centre in Havant
  - e. Rape and Sexual Abuse Counselling services
  - f. Specialist youth work including support for young people's mental health
  - g. Work and skills based training and support for unemployed people
  - h. Supported volunteering for people with a range of needs including mental health, drug and alcohol abuse, and those with a physical or mild learning disability.
3. Communities First Wessex employs 116 staff, has more than 80 regular volunteers and has a turnover of £2.6m. Its main sources of income are local authority and government grants and contracts, Big Lottery Fund and a range of charitable trusts.
4. For further information contact:  
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